E. 90

The Scheme *of the* Propoſals *for making a Fund for granting Annuities for Lives,* &c. *With the terms of Joyning the ſame to the* Million-Bank. *Anſwered, and the fallacy detected.*

HAving heard the ſaid Propoſals for granting Annuities, *&c.* very highly applauded, and meeting the Project in Print, dated the 24*th* of *October*, 1695. I expected to find ſomething extraordinary therein; but at the firſt reading thereof, I found it a project cunningly put together, with a deſign to deceive Innocent and Well-meaning Perſons, and to draw them into an apparent loſs, under the pretence of Letting them into a more than ordinary Profit and Advantage.

It was affirmed ſome time ſince, That the deſign was laid to ſerve the *Million Bank*, the ill Managery whereof had rendred their Credit ſuſpected. And that which might be a reaſonable ground of ſuch Report, was, That the *Projector* of the Annuities is Father to one of the Directors of the ſaid Bank, and very well acquainted with the reſt of them, who being a perſon of a Fair Reputation, was made uſe of by them as a fit Inſtrument to accompliſh ſuch their deſigns.

But to wave what might be ſaid in relation thereto, I ſhall apply my ſelf to the Printed Paper, wherein the Directors of the Million Bank bring up the Rear. And that the Reader may not be confounded with their different Propoſals; I ſhall take notice thereof, as it is already divided by them into three parts. The firſt conſiſting of nine particulars, I will for diſtinctions ſake call the *Propoſals*.

The ſecond part conſiſting of eleven particulars, I ſhall call the *Propoſitions*.

The third part conſiſting of ſix Particulars, being their Project of Union, I ſhall call the *Project*.

In the *Propoſals*, it is Provided, That any Perſon may Subſcribe Money or Land for granting Annuities for term of years, or for One, Two, or Three Lives, at 10, 12, and 14 years purchaſe, renewable at any time for a reaſonable Fine.

That the Money-ſubſcribers ſhould have ſix pounds *per Cent. per Annum* Intereſt for their Money. And the Subſcribers for Land ſhould be accommodated with Money at three pounds *per Cent. per Annum* Intereſt, and the remainder of the Profit to be divided between the Land and Money.

That any Perſon may Subſcribe to purchaſe Annuities at the aforeſaid rates, and the Subſcribers of Money may, if they think fit, transfer the ſame to the account of Annuities for a term of years, or for One, Two, or Three Lives, as they like beſt. But that the Money or what is purchaſed therewith, ſhall in the firſt place be liable to pay the ſaid Annuities; and in caſe they fall ſhort, the Land to be charged. With liberty given to the Subſcribers, of revoking till the 4*th* of *November* next.

The Propoſitions tells us how much the Fund of Money and Land is intended to be, *viz.* 120000 *l.* to be paid before the 9*th* of *November*, 100000 *l.* whereof to be laid out in purchaſing 20000 *l. per Annum* in Reverſions, on the Lives in the Exchequer: and the remaining 20000 *l.* to buy about 3000 *l. per Annum* of Lottery Tickets for 15 years: which 20000 *l. per Annum*, in Reverſion, and the 3000 *l. per Annum* in poſſeſſion for 15 years, is to be backt with 20000 *l. per Annum* Land, whereupon to grant Annuities for One, Two, or Three Lives, to the value of 20000 *l. per Annum*; which at 11 years purchaſe (the Medium of the rates propoſed) will come to 220000 *l.* with 120000 *l.* of which they propoſe to purchaſe 17000 *l. per Annum* more of Lottery Tickets to make the firſt 3000 *l. per Annum*, 20000 *l. per Annum* in poſſeſſion; and the remaining 100000 *l.* is to be lent to the Land-ſubſcribers at 3 *l. per Cent. per Annum*, and the Remainder of the profits is to divided, *viz.* Two thirds to the ſubſcribers of the 120000 in money, And one third to the ſubſcribers, of 400000 *l.* value in Land, being 20000 *l. per Annum* at 20 years purchaſe; which (ſay they) by a modeſt computation may make 16 *l. per Cent. per Annum* to the money, and near 30 *l. per Annum* on every 100 *l. per Annum* in Land. And that the ſaid Fund may not fail, one fifth part of the profits, ſhall during the 15 years be annually laid out to purchaſe ſomething to anſwer thoſe lives that may happen to be then left, of thoſe that the reverſions were purchaſed from the Exchequer.

Having thus briefly run through their *Propoſals* and *Propoſitions*, it remains, That I examine how the propoſed profit is like to ariſe, and what the fifth part of the profit will amount to that is to be laid out annually to purchaſe an equivalent to the lives that happen to be left as aforeſaid. And that the Gentlemens modeſty in their computation may more plainly appear; I ſhall for once ſtate their accompt of profit by way of Debtor and Creditor, *viz.*

Money

Early English Books Online, Copyright © 2019 ProQuest LLC
Images reproduced by courtesy of British Library

Money is	Dr.	Money is	Cr.
Subscribed, for which is to be paid 6 *l. per Cent. per Annum.*	120000 *l.*	Paid for 20000 *l. per Annum* Reversions.	100000 *l.*
Received for 20000 *l. per Annum*, Annuities at 11 years purchase.	220000 *l.*	Paid for 3000 *l. per Annum*, Lottery Tickets.	20000 *l.*
		Paid for 17000 *l. per Annum*. Do.	120000 *l.*
		Lent the Landed Men at 3 *l. per Cent. per Annum.*	100000 *l.*
	340000 *l.*		340000 *l.*

By which account of money it appears that they have made their Bread and Cheese even, and laid out their whole money to a farthing.

It remains that I now examine how much *per Annum* will come in clear to the subscribers, which will more plainly appear by the ballance of their annual incomes.

Annual Incomes.	Dr.	*Annual Incomes.*	Cr.
To Interest paid the Money'd men for 120000 *l.* at 6 *l. per Cent. per Annum.*	7200 *l.*	By 20000 *l. per Annum* in Reversion.	
To Annuities sold at 11 years purchase, *per Annum.*	20000 *l.*	Lottery Tickets in possession for 15 years *per Annum.*	20000 *l.*
		By Interest for 100000 *l.* lent at 3 *l. per Cent. per Annum.*	3000 *l.*
per Annum	27200 *l.*	Paid every year more than received *per Annum.*	4200 *l.*
			27200 *l.*

So that it is plain by this account, that there will be got every year 4200 *l. per Annum* over the left shoulder, besides the charges that will necessarily attend it; which I leave our modest Gentlemen to divide between the Landed and Monied men, and hope that neither party being so flusht with success will knock Logger-Heads together about making the Dividend; For nothing is more plain than instead of a great profit the subscribers will be brought into an apparent loss, and all that they can expect to help themselves is to wait for Dead Folks shoes, and if no more than one fourth part of those upon whose lives the Reversions depend, and the like part of those to whom the annuities shall be granted shall dye in 15 years, at which time the 20000 *l. per Annum*, payable out of the Lottery Tickets will expire, as it is very probable not above that number may dye, there will be then above 14000 *l. per Annum* clear loss, so that here will be a certain disadvantage, and no gain can be expected till 30 or 40 years hence.

Besides I cannot but remark their great disingenuity in suggesting that they can buy the value of 140000 in Lottery Tickets at the present Market price, they having already published their design of so doing in print, so that it's most evident they never designed the thing, but only to lay Baits to catch Woodcocks, or in plain English to draw in Innocent persons to support their tottering Bank.

I come now to their *Project of Union*, wherein they tell us that 50 *l. per Cent.* of the said Bank stock is already paid in, but I doubt they have as little honesty as they have modesty, else they would fairly have publisht that in little more than three months time; they have drawn out 4 *l.* for every 50 *l.* that is in the Bank under the pretence of making a dividend, so that *bona fide* there cannot be more than 46 *l. per Cent.* in the Bank, if there be so much, for it is most apparent their business hath not been so considerable as to get any thing by it. So far have they been from getting any thing to divide.

But what is further worthy of observation, they tell us that the other 50 *l. per Cent.* Is suspended or delayed till there shall be occasion for the same. And yet in a few lines after, they tell us they will admit of a further subscription, of an Additional stock for their Bank.

If they have no occasion for money they need not open their books, if they have, why do they not pay in the other 50 *l. per Cent?* So that nothing is more plain than that they want a stock of money, and being conscious to themselves that none will subscribe to their Bank, they have made use of this project as a *decoy* to draw in fresh people to be engaged with them.

For if it were so profitable as is pretended, those who rule the Roast among them, it's well known, have too narrow souls to forgo an advantage of 16 *l. per Cent. per Annum*, to complement others into their Bank; but if they believe what they themselves assert, they would undoubtedly have called in the other 50 *l. per Cent.* which they tell us is suspended till there shall be occasion for the same as aforesaid. Much more might be said on the same subject, but I sh conclude, having limitted my self to half a sheet of paper.

all

Early English Books Online, Copyright © 2019 ProQuest LLC
Images reproduced by courtesy of British Library